

Attorney Docket No. 00-VE15.17RCE1

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A system of assessing and reporting operations in an access data network, said system providing services to customer premises equipment of an identified one customer through the access data network, said system comprising:
 - a communication access node coupled to a wide area internetwork;
 - a plurality of digital subscriber line transceivers, coupled to network ends of subscriber lines, for data communication with transceivers coupled to respective customer premises ends of respective subscriber lines;
 - an access switch coupled for data communications with the digital subscriber line transceivers, for receiving data from customer premises equipment via respective ones of the digital subscriber line transceivers and for supplying data intended for transmission to line transceivers;
 - a high-speed data link between said access switch and said communication access node;
 - a local services network coupled locally to said access switch, wherein said access switch segregates upstream traffic from the respective customer premises equipment between said local services network and said high-speed data link to said communication access node, and said access switch aggregates downstream traffic from said local services network and said high speed data link from said communication access node for transmission to the respective customer premises equipment;
 - a server coupled to said local services network;
 - a user terminal adapted to conduct an interactive session with said server to initiate assessing and reporting operations;
 - wherein said user terminal and said server are configured automatically to determine at least one state of the access data network in relation to a provision of the service to said customer premises equipment of the identified one customer through the

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access data network; and to communicate information regarding said at least one state of the access data network to said user terminal for presentation to a user.

2. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 1, wherein:

the one customer has a logical circuit provisioned through the access data network, the logical circuit extending from the customer premises equipment of the one customer to the communication access node via the access switch and the high-speed data link, and

the logical circuit comprises a layer-2 protocol logical communication circuit provisioned through the access switch and the high-speed data link.

3. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 2, wherein the layer-2 protocol logical communication circuit comprises an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) virtual circuit.

4. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 1, further comprising:

continuing the interactive session between the user terminal and the server, to initiate a further assessment;

in response to initiation of the further assessment, automatically determining at least one other state of the access data network in relation to provision of the service to customer premises equipment of the identified one customer through the access data network; and

communicating information regarding the at least one other state of the access data network to the user terminal, for presentation to the user.

5. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 1, wherein the user terminal comprises customer premises equipment of the identified one customer, and the interactive session is conducted via the access data network between the server and the customer premises.

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6. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 1, wherein the user terminal comprises a workstation for technical personnel concerned with operations of the access data network.

7. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 1, wherein the step of automatically determining at least one state of the access data network comprises conducting a throughput test between a server coupled to the local services network and customer premises equipment of the one identified customer.

8. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 1, wherein the step of automatically determining at least one state of the access data network comprises conducting a throughput test between another server and customer premises equipment of the one identified customer, wherein the other server is coupled to either the communication access node, a point of presence of a wide area service provider or the wide area internetwork.

9. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 1, wherein the step of automatically determining at least one state of the access data network comprises obtaining data relating to current performance of at least one element of the access data network.

10-16. (Previously Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:
an access data network, for providing access services to a wide area domain and a logically separate local services domain, the access data network separating the two domains at least in part based on distinctions in types of protocols at a level above a protocol level used to define basic connectivity through the access data network to the wide area domain;

a web server, coupled to the local services domain, for interactive communication with a customer subscribing to wide area domain access service, through the access data network; and

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means responsive to customer selections via the interactive communication with the web server, for automatically isolating selected points of the access data network and determining a current status of at least one element associated with each selected point effecting the wide area domain access service provided to the customer, and for providing results of each status determination to the web server.

a communication access node coupled to a wide area internetwork that forms the wide area domain;

a plurality of digital subscriber line transceivers coupled to network ends of subscriber lines, for data communication with transceivers coupled to respective customer premises ends of respective subscriber lines;

an access switch coupled for data communications with the digital subscriber line transceivers, for receiving data from customer premises equipment via respective ones of the digital subscriber line transceivers and for supplying data intended for transmission to predetermined customer premises equipment to the respective ones of the digital subscriber line transceivers;

a high-speed data link between the access switch and the communication access node;

a local services network forming the local services domain, coupled locally to the access switch,

wherein the access switch segregates upstream traffic from the respective customer premises equipment between the local services network and the high-speed data link to the communication access node, and the access switch aggregates downstream traffic from the local services network and the high-speed data link from the communication access node for transmission to the respective customer premises equipment.

18-21. (Previously Cancelled)

22-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A system of assessing operations of an access data network, said system comprising:

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a communication access node coupled to a wide area internetwork;
a plurality of digital subscriber line transceivers, coupled to network ends of subscriber lines, for data communication with transceivers coupled to respective customer premises ends of respective subscriber lines;
an access switch coupled for data communications with the digital subscriber line transceivers, for receiving data from customer premises equipment via respective ones of the digital subscriber line transceivers and for supplying data intended for transmission to line transceivers;
a high-speed data link between said access switch and said communication access node;
a local services network coupled locally to said access switch, wherein said access switch segregates upstream traffic from the respective customer premises equipment between said local services network and said high-speed data link to said communication access node, and said access switch aggregates downstream traffic from said local services network and said high speed data link from said communication access node for transmission to the respective customer premises equipment;
a first server coupled for communication with said communication access node;
a user terminal of one customer is adapted to conduct a communications test with said first server, to assess a layer 2 connectivity for the one customer through the access data network; and
a second server, coupled to said local services network, is adapted to conduct a communications test with said first server, to assess a layer 2 connectivity from said access switch to said communication access node.

26. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 25, wherein at least one of the communications tests comprises a throughput test communication.

27. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 25, wherein:
the one customer has a logical circuit provisioned through the access data network, the logical circuit extending from the customer premises equipment of the one

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customer to the communication access node via the access switch and the high-speed data link, and

the logical circuit comprises a layer-2 protocol logical communication circuit provisioned through the access switch and the high-speed data link.

28. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 26, wherein the layer-2 protocol logical communication circuit comprises an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) virtual circuit.

29-39. (Cancelled)